

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) A method for producing a purified scyllo-inositol, comprising:  
a first step of forming a scyllo-inositol/boric acid complex by adding boric acid and a metal salt into a liquid mixture containing scyllo-inositol and neutral sugar other than scyllo-inositol in an amount by mol two times or more ~~larger than~~ that of scyllo-inositol dissolved in the liquid mixture, and by adjusting the pH of the liquid mixture to 8.0 to 11.0;  
a second step of separating the complex from the liquid mixture;  
a third step of dissolving the separated complex into acid to cleave into scyllo-inositol and boric acid; and  
a fourth step of isolating and purifying the scyllo-inositol from the acidic solution or acidic suspension obtained from the third step,  
wherein the metal salt to be added is one or more kinds of metal salts selected from the group consisting of NaCl, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, NaHSO<sub>4</sub>, NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, borax, KCl, KHCO<sub>3</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, KHSO<sub>4</sub>, KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, MgCO<sub>3</sub>, and MgSO<sub>4</sub>.

36. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein, in the first step, the amounts of the boric acid and metal salt to be added ~~is not less than twice~~are two to three times ~~the amount by mol,~~and not more than three times of the scyllo-inositol dissolved in the liquid mixture.

37. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein, in the first step, the pH of the liquid mixture is adjusted to 9.0 to 10.0.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Original) The method according to claim 35, wherein the liquid mixture containing the scyllo-inositol and the neutral sugar other than scyllo-inositol is a liquid mixture containing

myo-inositol and scyllo-inositol obtained by reducing scyllo-inosose in a solution containing scyllo-inosose.

40. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein, in the third step, the solution obtained by dissolving the complex in acid is adjusted to an acidic solution of 0.1 N or higher; and wherein, in the fourth step, the acidic solution is contacted with an strong acidic ion exchange resin, and with a strong basic ion exchange resin or a boric acid-selective adsorbing resin, and then scyllo-inositol is precipitated from the acidic solution.

41. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein, in the fourth step, the scyllo-inositol is precipitated by adding an aqueous organic solvent to the acidic solution or acidic suspension.

42. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 41, wherein the aqueous organic solvent is ethanol or methanol; and the ethanol is added in a volume 0.3 to 3 times larger~~the volume of the acidic solution or acidic suspension~~, or the methanol is added in a volume 0.3 to 5 times larger,~~than that~~the volume of the acidic solution or acidic suspension.

43. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 41, wherein the aqueous organic solvent is ethanol or methanol; and the ethanol is added in a volume 0.6 to 1.5 times the volume~~of the acidic solution or acidic suspension~~larger, or the methanol is added in a volume 0.9 to 2 times the volume~~larger, than that~~of the acidic solution or acidic suspension.

44-47. (Canceled)